I received this letter on December 1, 2006.

Dear Santa,

We are from Waveland and our home was at:

[redacted] St Joseph St

We are now living at:

Address: [redacted] Carte, Sombrero

City Murrieta State CA Zipcode 92563

Phone No. [redacted]

Our family consists of:

My son Marty who is 34
My brother Jim was with me.
My son Jake is who I'm living with in California

Our Katrina experience was:

Was very scary. My son & I saw water coming under the carport door into the house & went to get towels in the hall closet. By the time I got back to the door the water was waist high. We opened the back living room window a few minutes later & the water was over my head. I took my dog from my son so he could jump out & we tried to swim to my sister Jake's house over

Write something special that you would like Santa to bring you or your family:

I would like to have a refrigerator for us so we don't have to keep our food at my sister or in a cooler.

Please use back or another sheet of paper, if you want to write more. We want to hear your story.

Return by November 30th to:

Mayor's Office, City of Waveland, P. O. Box 539, Waveland, MS 39576

next door but the wind was pushing us towards the back in the woods, plus they had 2 big trees fallen in the path between our houses so we had to swim to the carport around the house & get on the top of his V. Ranger - Chevy. The water kept rising and we were really scared. I think we were in the eye for over an hour. Later on before the eye left us my sister Susan Terry & my brother Al Terry swam over with life jackets & a cooler to put the dog in. We put them on & the dog in the cooler & swam across & climbed over the trees and swam the rest of the way to her house. When we got to her house we changed into some dry clothes. My sister Jane Smolensky had 5 ladies besides herself & her husband and my sister Susan & brother Al staying there. So we were all upstairs in the attic. You couldn't even see the cars they were all underwater.

It was such a horrible feeling thinking you might not survive, but Thank God we all survived.

My brother Jim was staying with this lady who was ambulatory & tried to help her. The last we heard from him was 5:30 that morning saying the water was halfway up the steps & she lives in a two story on Shoreline Park. He finally got her to the roof of her house because the water kept rising. The Coast Guard picked them up a day & a half later & brought her to the hospital & he started walking home & someone picked him up & gave him a ride to the highway. All we have to hear is a Hurricane now & we are leaving.

Thank you for letting me tell our story.

Sincerely,

Ann [redacted]